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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, May 15, 1995)

The Senate met at 8:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

The earth is the Lord's and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.—Psalm 24:1.

Creator and Sustainer of all, Lord of all life, Sovereign of this Nation, and owner of all that we are and have, we humbly accept Your calling to be stewards of the resources and riches You have so bountifully given our Nation. You have written Your signature in the beauty of our land, blessed us with opportunities, and entrusted us with material prosperity. We ask for only one thing more, Lord: Give us a grateful heart.

In gratitude, we press on in the crucial discussion of the budget today. We will talk in terms of billions and trillions. At times we may be tempted to think that we control the money to be budgeted. Instead, we turn to You for guidance in these fiscal matters so that what is decided will be creative for the people of this Nation, now and for future generations. Lord, help us to listen for truth as intently as we seek to speak our understanding of it. We praise You that we live in a dynamic democracy in which great leaders like these Senators can give this quality and quantity of time to the crucial issues of this budget. God bless them, and through their deliberations and decisions, bless America. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, this morning the time for the two leaders has been reserved and the Senate will immediately resume consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13, the concurrent budget resolution.

Rollcall votes are expected throughout the day on or in relation to amendments to the budget. The Senate will not recess during the afternoon today for policy luncheons, but will continue in session debating the budget.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CAMPBELL). The Senate will resume consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 13.

The clerk will report the pending business.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 13) setting forth the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for the fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002.

The Senate resumed consideration of the concurrent resolution.

Pending:

Roth Amendment No. 1121, to express the sense of the Senate that the number of Federal full-time equivalent positions should be further reduced.

Mr. EXON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, thank you. I simply say that as we open this very important day, it will be a very long day on the budget resolution. I would simply say that as usual at this particular time we have an inordinate number of amendments that have been suggested from Members on both sides of the aisle.

I simply say that we very likely—if we are going to finish this up tomorrow some time, which we must, given the

time constraints that we are under—we are going to have to have some give and take today. We will have to begin the process very early today of trying to come to some specific time agreements. With the large number of amendments that we have to offer, we obviously are heading for one of those traditional situations that we do on the budget resolution where a great number of amendments to the bill are going to be offered and we are not going to have time to debate those.

Under the rules, all amendments that are offered can be voted on if a rollcall vote is ordered, which indicates to me very clearly that tomorrow afternoon sometime we are going to have a great number—and I mean a great number, maybe 2 to 3 hours—of successive votes on many amendments that will not have been thoroughly discussed or debated at all in the U.S. Senate.

Therefore, I would hope that we could all conserve time as best we can. Last night, the Senate completed debate on an amendment offered by the Senator from Delaware, on that side of the aisle. Under the usual procedures, the next amendment would be offered from someone on this side of the aisle.

I see Senator BRADLEY is here to offer an appropriate amendment that had been scheduled for some time. Depending on what the acting majority leader would like to do, we are prepared to offer the amendment that had been scheduled to be offered by the Senator from New Jersey, unless there is intervening business.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I believe the plan is to move forward with the amendment by Senator BRADLEY.

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I am, therefore, pleased to recognize the Senator from New Jersey.

Would he please indicate to me about how much time he thinks would be necessary?

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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